

## HOUSE BILL NO. 249

INTRODUCED BY J. LASLOVICH, HARRINGTON, KITZENBERG, LAWSON, MAHLUM, MOOD, OLSON,  
RIPLEY, TASH, TESTER, WANZENRIED, LEWIS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF A SCHOOL  
DISTRICT TO HOLD ITS FINAL BUDGET MEETING ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 15; EXTENDING THE TIME  
FOR PROVIDING NOTIFICATION OF THE FINAL BUDGET MEETING; AMENDING SECTIONS 20-9-115 AND  
20-9-131, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 20-9-115, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-9-115. Notice of final budget meeting.** Between July ~~24~~ 1 and August 4 of each year, the  
clerk of each district shall publish one notice, in the local or county newspaper that the trustees of the  
district determine to be the newspaper with the widest circulation in the district, stating the date, time,  
and place that the trustees will meet ~~on the second Monday in August~~ for the purpose of considering and  
adopting the final budget of the district, stating that the meeting of the trustees may be continued from  
day to day until the final adoption of the district's budget, and stating that any taxpayer in the district may  
appear at the meeting and be heard for or against any part of the budget."

**Section 2.** Section 20-9-131, MCA, is amended to read:

**"20-9-131. Final budget meeting.** (1) On ~~the second Monday in~~ or before August 15, on the date  
and at the time and place ~~noted~~ stated in the notice published pursuant to 20-9-115, the trustees of each  
district shall meet to consider all budget information and any attachments required by law.

(2) The trustees may continue the meeting from day to day but shall adopt the final budget for  
the district and, subject to 15-10-420, determine the amounts to be raised by tax levies for the district  
not later than the fourth Monday in August and before the fixing of the tax levies for each district. Any  
taxpayer in the district may attend any portion of the trustees' meeting and be heard on the budget of the  
district or on any item or amount contained in the budget.

(3) UPON FINAL APPROVAL, THE TRUSTEES SHALL DELIVER THE ADOPTED BUDGET, INCLUDING THE AMOUNTS TO

1 BE RAISED BY TAX LEVIES, TO THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS WITHIN 5 DAYS."

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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